ATTAWAPISKAT FIRST NATION

P.O. Box 248
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Attawapiskat declares State of Emergency – Update # 3 Wednesday, December 18, 2013

Attawapiskat, ON, December 18, 2013– On Monday, December 17, 2013, a repatriation flight organized by the Ontario Emergency Operations Centre returned 30 community members who were recently evacuated in late November due to a fire that damaged a portion of the East End Trailers in Attawapiskat.

A total of 65 affected members of the community were evacuated due a fire that occurred at the East End Shelter Complex in Attawapiskat in the early hours of the morning of November 21, 2013. Since November 22, 2013, these evacuated residents were hosted by the Town of Kapuskasing while repairs were made to the fire damaged complex.

The restoration efforts of a Timmins based property restoration company will be complete on Wednesday, allowing the remaining 33 residents to return on Friday.

Chief Theresa Spence commented "It is wonderful to have our community whole again, the past month has been challenging, but we are happy that everyone will be home for Christmas." Chief Spence further added that "The community is also thankful to the volunteers, the people of Kapuskasing who have provided assistance for the past month, and to those throughout Canada that have donated items at this time of need."

The Attawapiskat First Nation continues to work with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada for a long term housing regime to address the shortage of housing in the community.

The Attawapiskat First Nation is located on the north shore of the Attawapiskat River, 500 kilometers north of Timmins, Ontario. The community of Attawapiskat, has an on Reserve population of 1800 members, and whose traditional territories include areas of the Ekwan, Attawapiskat, and Lawashi River Basins.

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